

Dave spent his adult life working in the public's best interests. He served our nation in the United States Air National Guard and served our state in several capacities, such as a field representative for former Assembly Member Rusty Areias, and later as Assistant Secretary at the California Resources Agency. Dave also worked for the City of Los Banos as Planning Commissioner, and Director of the Merced County Farm Bureau Board. In 1992, Dave joined the Grassland Water District and served as Assistant General Manager.

Prior to returning to the Grassland Water District in 2007 as General Manager, Dave dedicated his time to a number of organizations, and served in a number of roles, including Chief Deputy Director of Governmental Affairs at the California Waterfowl Association and as Director of Conservation Policy for Ducks Unlimited. Dave's breadth of experience gave him a unique combination of intellect and enthusiasm, which allowed him to serve the San Joaquin Valley—and its people, water, and wildlife—with tact and influence.

Whether he was working on issues important to the Valley or spending time with his son Ty, currently a student at Purdue University, Dave lived a full and rich life. His dedication and service will leave a lasting legacy, and we will miss his insights and his humor.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in paying tribute to the life of David Lowry Widell, a respected and joyous man with a steadfast commitment to protecting the Central Valley's natural resources.

A TRIBUTE HONORING THE LIFE OF EVELYN HAUSNER LAUDER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and extraordinary accomplishments of Evelyn Hausner Lauder, who passed away at her home in New York City on November 12, 2011. Evelyn was a loving wife and mother, a savvy business woman, a devoted philanthropist, and a noble citizen of our country who put the "active" in the word activist.

Evelyn Hausner married into one of America's most distinguished families, but her beginnings were humble. In 1936, Evelyn fled Nazi-occupied Europe with her parents, making their way to America and eventually settling in New York City. While attending Hunter College, Evelyn met her future husband, Leonard Lauder. In 1959, they married and worked together to help grow the Estee Lauder Company.

With only six products when she joined, Evelyn recalled that "it was a baby company"—something to grow and nourish. Today, Estee Lauder stands as one of the most respected companies in the world. Evelyn herself created the Clinique product line and was an integral part of the fabric of the company.

Evelyn's real fame, however, was found in her role as an advocate for the one in eight women in the United States who develops breast cancer. Evelyn herself was a survivor. When she learned of her cancer diagnosis in 1989, she fought back—and won. She went

on to personally help build the Evelyn H. Lauder Breast Center, founded the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, and launched the Pink Ribbon campaign. Evelyn's pink bows today are recognized symbols of hope for a cure for breast cancer, as does her lipstick Pink Ribbon.

I have always admired Evelyn's work from afar, and I have the honor and privilege of representing her son, Gary Lauder, her daughter-in-law, Laura Lauder, and grandchildren, Ellie and Josh, and having them as my dear friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest condolences to Evelyn Lauder's husband, Leonard Lauder; her children, William Lauder and Gary Lauder; her daughter-in-law, Laura Lauder; and her beloved grandchildren. Evelyn Lauder's life is instructive to all of us of the significance that one person can have for an entire nation . . . to literally insert an issue into the national dialogue and consciousness. As the poet wrote, "and so she passed on, and all the trumpets sounded on the other side."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAREER AND HUMANITARIAN ACHIEVEMENTS OF FAROOQ KATHWARI

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to seek Congressional recognition of the exceptional achievements and outstanding charitable and humanitarian works of Farooq Kathwari.

Just this month, Mr. Kathwari received yet another prestigious honor, as the United States Institute of Peace, USIP, dedicated the Farooq Kathwari Amphitheater in recognition of both his long standing work with USIP, as well as his decades of humanitarian efforts across the globe. Not only has Farooq enjoyed a long and illustrious business career, but throughout his life he has also dedicated himself unflinchingly to numerous humanitarian causes. I have always marveled at the way he balances such a successful business career with his commitment to giving back and "paying it forward." Farooq Kathwari is a most fitting recipient of this singular honor from USIP. While leading a Fortune 500 company, he generously lends his valuable time and energy to promote world peace through advocacy and by serving on the boards of numerous human-rights organizations.

The life story of Farooq Kathwari illustrates what our great country stands for, and the bountiful opportunities the United States offers its citizens. Farooq Kathwari came to America over 40 years ago as a political refugee from strife-torn Kashmir, and he now leads one of the Nation's largest and prestigious companies. He arrived in New York City at age 20 armed with a B.A. in English and political science, and with a determination to live and grow in a free society. Two years later he earned an MBA, went to work for Newcourt Securities, where he rapidly rose to the position of vice president, and simultaneously launched his own importing business. Soon thereafter, the iconic American company, Ethan Allen, purchased an interest in his com-

pany. In 1980, the firms merged, and Farooq Kathwari became vice president of Ethan Allen. By 1989, he had risen to the post of Chairman, President, and CEO. Farooq has been the top executive at Ethan Allen Interiors for 26 years; under his leadership, the company has become a leading competitor in interior design and home furnishings, while also fostering a business that values environmental and social responsibility. He is a national leader in the furniture industry; where he serves as the director and chairman of the National Retail Federation and director and is the former chairman and president of the American Home Furnishings Alliance. The industry also inducted him into the American Furniture Hall of Fame.

While Farooq's professional accomplishments are impressive, his most laudable contribution is his tireless dedication to foster world peace and to bettering the lives of others. His humanitarian efforts extend to those people displaced by conflict zones and who end up in refugee camps, and to those facing religious persecution in the Middle East and elsewhere. Most recently, Farooq was honored by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees for his steadfast dedication to raising consciousness of the plight of refugees worldwide. He also serves on the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and has received numerous awards for his peace activism, including the humanitarian award from the Anti-Defamation League. Farooq is a director and former chairman of Refugees International, a director of the International Rescue Committee, director of the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy at Georgetown University and the Henry L. Stimson Center, and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He is also my friend.

Mr. Speaker, Farooq's life's work is to help foster a dialogue for peace in much-troubled regions, and to promote human rights around the world. I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to stand and join me now in honoring Farooq Kathwari, a most compassionate and selfless citizen. May his good works serve as a model for countless others to follow.

HONORING SGT. TIMOTHY K. GILBOE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sgt. Timothy K. Gilboe on being awarded the Silver Star for his heroic action in Afghanistan.

In 2006, Sgt. Gilboe left his home in Jackman, Maine to serve in the Army. After enlisting, Sgt. Gilboe showed outstanding qualities as a soldier, earning him membership to the 4th Brigade's Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division at Fort Polk. Eventually, he was sent to Afghanistan.

On April 28th, 2011, insurgents opened fire on Gilboe's platoon, wounding the leader and squad leader. Sgt. Gilboe returned fire while suppressing the flames that ignited on a comrade's backpack. When an insurgent ran towards him with a rifle, an unarmed Sgt. Gilboe